

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# 7818

Laboratory Report

Case:

Number: 7-576-9149

Specimens:

Examination requested by:

Date received:

Examination requested:

Result of examination:

Examination by:

*Room* [redacted] b7c  
a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p r s t u v w y  
B F G J  
T B C D g L M O P S T W Y

The and to on Jan. 1936 of i i i,

[redacted] # 7-1128-1866A.

b7c and e f g g k m p s r r u w y  
That The F e n  
b Identical.

Booked. Original letter typewritten a handwritten.

Checked against extortion note file, Ident with 7-1128-18661

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K

1/30  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

7818

Laboratory Report

Case: Re: BREKID

Number: 7-576-9119

Specimens:

7-576-9119-A. Four sheets of the known handwriting of [REDACTED]  
to be placed on file.

b7C

Examination requested by: Cleveland

Date received: 1-24-36 jwp 1:30 PM

Examination requested: Document

Result of examination:

Examination by: [REDACTED] (2)

b7C

CC: Cincinnati  
Chicago  
E. J. Connelley, Chicago  
St. Paul  
Louisville  
Detroit  
Nashville  
New York

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A

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many characteristics

e y Th

7-1128-1846

I don't think  
it's signed.

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

P. O. BOX # 1525,  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

11870

July 21, 1936.

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

re BREKID

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letters dated  
December 11, 1935, and April 28, 1936 (7-576).

There are transmitted herewith additional  
lists which were furnished by the Federal Laboratories,  
Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, reflecting sales of  
Thompson submachine guns in the following States during  
the periods indicated:

State	From	To
Alabama	1921	August 20, 1929
Arizona	1921	July 20, 1928
Colorado	1921	July 23, 1928
Delaware	1921	October 20, 1930
Dist. of Columbia	1921	January 10, 1928
Georgia	1921	October 22, 1928
Idaho	1921	July 8, 1933
Indiana	1921	October 6, 1928
Iowa	1921	July 14, 1928
Kansas	1921	February 14, 1929
Kentucky	1921	January 26, 1929
Louisiana -(except New Orleans)	1921	July 24, 1928
Maine	1921	December 11, 1931
Maryland	1921	May 1, 1929
Michigan	1921	September 28, 1928
Minnesota	1921	May 27, 1929
Mississippi	1921	March 12, 1934
Montana	1921	September 23, 1931
Nebraska	1921	February 10, 1930

7-576-12395  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 22 1936 P.M.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ONE FILE

JUL 24 1936

1 ENCL

COPIES DESTROYED  
MAR 23 1966

8-20-36  
b7c

State	From	To
Nevada	1921	October 18, 1929
New Hampshire	1921	September 12, 1933
New Jersey	1921	November 17, 1928
North Carolina	1921	March 3, 1930
North Dakota	1921	August 16, 1929
Oklahoma	1921	July 24, 1928
Rhode Island	1921	April 19, 1929
South Dakota	1921	May 2, 1930
Tennessee	1921	October 18, 1933
Washington	1921	December 28, 1928
Wisconsin	1921	February 19, 1929.

Very truly yours, .

*R. L. Shivers*

R. L. SHIVERS.  
Special Agent in Charge.

 b7C  
7-39

Encls. (30)

cc Cincinnati

7-576-12395

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF:  
 THOMPSON SUBMACHINE GUNS SOLD IN MICHIGAN  
 FROM 1921 to SEPTEMBER 22, 1928, AS FAR AS THE  
 RECORDS OF THIS OFFICE DISCLOSE

<u>PURCHASER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>SERIAL NOS.</u>
Police Dept. City of Flint, Michigan	5/7/21	1	✓ 257
Carl E. Schmidt & Co. Detroit, Mich.	5/25/21	1	✓ 779
Detroit Police Dept. Att. [REDACTED] OS Detroit, Mich. b7C	5/7/21	2	✓ 244-✓ 256
[REDACTED] OS [REDACTED] b7C			✓ [REDACTED] OS [REDACTED] b7C
Sheriff [REDACTED] OS Saginaw, Michigan b7C	7/18/22	1	✓ 1548
Michigan State Prison, Jackson, Michigan	12/5/29	6	✓ 644-7555- 7282-6735- 6381-7127 1668-1723
Dept. of Public Safety, Lansing, Mich.	7/28/22	2	✓ [REDACTED] OS [REDACTED] b7C
Dept. of Public Safety, Lansing, Mich.	4/27/23	1	✓ 1766
Henry Ford, Dearborn, Mich. Shipped to: [REDACTED] OS [REDACTED] b7C	3/30/28	1	✓ 7253
Asst. Sec. to Henry Ford, Dearborn, Mich.			✓ [REDACTED] OS [REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] OS [REDACTED] b7C			✓ 5182
Under Sheriff, Cass County, OS, b7C Cassopolis, Mich.	5/11/27	1	

*No prior record on any of these*

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 7-53

REPORT MADE AT

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DATE WHEN MADE

9/22/36

PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE

9/15-21/36

REPORT MADE BY

[REDACTED] b7c

TYPE

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
[REDACTED] - VICTIM.  
b7c

CHARACTER OF CASE

KIDNAPING.

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] parents of missing baby, were again interviewed to determine their whereabouts on day of baby's disappearance; their movements and location throughout the day checked and verified by numerous witnesses. [REDACTED] Victim's brothers, again questioned in effort to determine the authenticity of their story, but it remains practically unchanged now. Neighborhood inquiry established that children reached Clark Park and were playing about, leaving Victim apparently unsupervised for several hours. Questioning of usual habitués of Clark Park largely unproductive in that few can identify the [REDACTED] children and none saw Victim being removed. Relatives of [REDACTED] family being questioned and their movements and activities on day of disappearance being determined and checked. Patrol in Clark Park directed but nothing of value found. Neighborhood search being made, but unproductive so far. b7c

## REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED]  
Detroit, Michigan, dated September 21, 1936. b7c

## DETAILS:

AS SUBJECT. KIDNAPING.

5 Bureau  
1 Cleveland  
5 Detroit

7-1718-56

SEP 24 1936

SEP 26 1936

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

OS  
b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

...the ... under the conditions above men-  
tioned in the ... in ... questions, and apparently this is  
... to the ... given these ... by various  
... with a ... who are trying to make the boys admit some-  
thing other than what they have told. There is no question but that these  
people have been over-indulgent in their efforts. ... of the  
X Detroit News, ... had the boy ... for an ... day, enter-  
taining him at length in an effort to get him away. Also ... ,  
confidential man for Harry Ford, had ... off for a while day in the

b7C

Specter entertaining him with the same idea in mind, and the various officers of the Detroit Police Department have on numerous occasions talked with these boys with the idea of gaining their friendship and having them admit something not already told, and they have also apparently threatened and coerced them at different times, thinking they might admit things which they believe they are not telling.

OS b7C, b7D

OS b7C, b7D

OS b7C, b7D

OS b7C, b7D



XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

# **FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

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- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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\_\_\_\_\_ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

5 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
Previously processed in Edsel Ford release.

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

7- 2679 Serial 1

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
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XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

7-2679 Serial 5

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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3 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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- ☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_
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9-3421 Serial 4 and outgoing serial 4

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XXXXXX  
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

9-3421 Serial 7

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Previously processed in Edsel Ford release

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

9-3421 Serial 11

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 X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
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THE CHAIN LETTER CRAZE HAS HIT WALL STREET. THE VARIETY CIRCULAR  
IN THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT SEEKS NOT A DIME OR A DOLLAR,  
BUT \$10,000. IN THE LIST OF NAMES ARE ANDREW MELLON, HENRY FORD,  
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER JR., J. P. MORGAN AND CHARLES M. SCHWAB.

"WHEN YOU GET THIS LETTER, SIT RIGHT DOWN AND WRITE A CHECK  
FOR \$10,000," THE LETTER READS. "MAIL IT TO THE TOP NAME ON  
THE LIST, IN CARE OF J. EDGAR HOOVER, WASHINGTON, D.C.

CROSS OFF THE TOP NAME AND ADD YOUR NAME TO THE BOTTOM AND WRITE TO  
FIVE FRIENDS. BY THE TIME YOUR NAME REACHES THE TOP YOU MAY BE  
WORTH \$15,625,000,000,000,000,000. EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT, THE  
OTHERS ABOVE YOU WILL STILL BE RICH."

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

--RP--

MAY 24 1935

36-1966-13

MAY 24 1935

NATHAN

TOLSON

FOUR

TAMM

36-1966-13



NEGRO

New York, N. Y.,

June 23, 1943.

It seems rather significant that among the many statements given out by various persons in Detroit to the press that the expression "poor white trash" was used so many times by the negroes in the past few months. Now I have been in the south quite a bit and if there is some thing that the lowest white man will not stand for it is to be called that. On the other hand, there is no question in my mind but what the Gerald Smith and the ~~Klu Klux Klan~~ leadership sent a lot of their southern key men into Detroit and then on top of that you recall about three years ago that super-patriot organization titled "The ~~black~~ Legion". If you recall hundreds of Detroit police were members of that organization. I know that negroes when they come north get smart alecy. But it seems strange according to press reports how many well-dress young negroes, plentifully supplied with money were going around Detroit, making insulting remarks, sneering at women and seemingly bent on stirring up trouble. On the other hand, the whites simply wanted to move the South, and we mean the deep South, up into Detroit and the negroes, faced with 3 types of propaganda, would not stand for the methods that the whites wanted to use. When we say 3 types we mean the Communist angle, the possible German angle, the possible angle where Harry Bennett and Henry Ford tie in with. Take a man from South Carolina who lives back in the woods in the hills and in spite of the NLRB receives about \$1.50 a day. Suddenly send him to Detroit where he gets \$7 to \$9 a day; where he meets more of his own kind and generally speak that type of negro goes crazy with liquor and sexy women. There is only one answer and that is trouble and I don't care how much German propaganda is mixed in with it, I lay the blame where it should be and that is the very start of this ~~was~~ caused by the

Communist Party. I know how it was done, who did it and so do you. No sooner had the

33 AUG 13 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/6/80 BY SP-10P

44-802-108



riot gotten started when Pat ~~X~~Toohey, the Communist district organizer in Detroit, had printed 25,000 bulletins and distributed them everywhere. If that isn't stirring up racial hatred, then I don't know what to call it.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Chicago, Illinois

FILE NO. 67-95

REPORT MADE AT <b>Peoria, Illinois</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7-11-38</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6-30-38 &amp; 7-6-38</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] b7C</b>
TITLE <b>[REDACTED] b7C</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IMPERSONATION</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject active in Galeburg, Illinois, during fall of 1937, in promoting fake stock schemes and obtaining money to build pilot plant at Crested Butte, Colorado, which company subsequently was proven bankrupt. Attempted to procure a corporation known as Illinois S. & M. through contact with officials at Chicago. Although no corporation was ever formed, [REDACTED]

Last money in Subject's possession, relative to representations that he was a U.S. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] admits he wrote anonymous letter to the Bureau in order to have [REDACTED] investigated relative to his claims of being a U.S. [REDACTED] OS, b7C, b7D

## REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Chicago, Illinois, dated [REDACTED] Chicago letter [REDACTED] b7C [REDACTED] 20, 1938.

## DETAILS:

The state of [REDACTED] is being charged to furnish the aliases of [REDACTED] for the Subject, as revealed by [REDACTED] b7C

- COPIES OF THIS REPORT
- 3 Bureau
  - 2 Birmingham (Incls.)
  - 3 Chicago (Incls.)
  - 2 Newark (Incls.)
  - 2 Washington Field
  - 1 U. S. Atty. Springfield
  - 2 Peoria

JUL 13 AM.

OS, b7c, b7D

OS, b7c, b7D

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 60-3

REPORT MADE AT <b>CLEVELAND, OHIO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/14/39</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/6, 7, 10, 14, 15, 16, 24, 25, 27, 28, 3, 6, 7, 8/39</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] b7C</b>										
FOR DRESSING INVESTIGATION; <b>[REDACTED] with aliases, - FUGITIVE, et al.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>DISTRUST - HARBORING; CONSPIRACY TO HARBOR</b>										
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 300px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>													
<p>APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</p>		<p>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">60-1501-2788</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">FEB 17 1939</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">FEB 15 P.M.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ONE</p>											
<p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>3 - Bureau</td> <td>1 - Newark</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 - New York City</td> <td>1 - El Paso (1 Enc.)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 - Chicago</td> <td>2 - Cleveland</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 - Miami</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 - Detroit</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				3 - Bureau	1 - Newark	2 - New York City	1 - El Paso (1 Enc.)	1 - Chicago	2 - Cleveland	1 - Miami		1 - Detroit	
3 - Bureau	1 - Newark												
2 - New York City	1 - El Paso (1 Enc.)												
1 - Chicago	2 - Cleveland												
1 - Miami													
1 - Detroit													

[REDACTED]

OS, b7C

[REDACTED]

OS, b7C

In a recent interview with [REDACTED] became financially interested in the Molaska Company through one [REDACTED] a disbarred lawyer who had an idea of manufacturing and selling dehydrated molasses. [REDACTED] the matter was discussed with AARON SHAPIRO, New York attorney, who gave much publicity by filing a suit against HENRY FORD several years ago. Later SHAPIRO was disbarred in New York City. OS, b7C, b7D

[REDACTED]

OS, b7C, b7D

[REDACTED]

OS, b7C, b7D

0077

61-7074-1

August 20, 1952

Following is a partial list of prominent men throughout the United States  
marked for persecution by Communists. Those from Detroit are: Henry Ford,

Why the Reds want to get Ford and [redacted] the spot I have not been able to find out, except they happen to be large industrialists, employing thousands of men.

The other prominent persons on the fourth list living outside of Detroit are the following: General Charles G. Dawes, Congressman Dies, Congressman Hamilton Fish, J. P. Morgan and General MacArthur, chief of staff of the United States Army. Why the Reds want to kill Sen. Dawes, I have not found out. They want Congressman Dies because he fathered the new immigration law which has resulted in the deportation of many Reds living in the United States illegally. Congressman Fish has entered the ranks of the marked men because he headed the Fish committee that investigated Red activities all over the United States, and they want to "knock off" Sen. MacArthur because he issued the orders that routed the Red bones marchers and drove them from Washington.

There are three Communists living in Detroit, whom it is alleged are the men picked to take [redacted] for a ride or bomb his house. They are [redacted]

I expect to have further reports on this subject, possibly tomorrow.

Communists have been playing havoc with the Detroit Edison Co., and the Detroit City Gas Co., by fixing gas and electric meters so they do not register in the homes of Communists, particularly those unemployed. They have expert plumbers who either fix the meters so they do not register or pipe and wire around the meters so gas and electricity is obtained without passing through the meters.

Detroit Communists have received the following instructions from the New York Headquarters of the Party relative to mobilizing the unemployed workers with the members of the Workers Ex-Servicemen's League:

It is the time to mobilize all the forces of the working-class in support of the struggle of the ex-servicemen for their back wages and more. Not a day must be delayed.

Office of  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Copy of envelope.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

1932

DECLASSIFIED BY 1259  
C-1-379

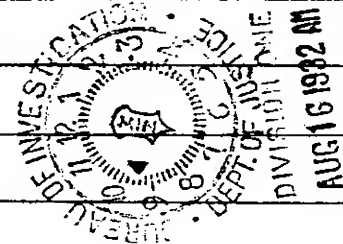
37Mba

61-7074-1  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 18 1952 A.M.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
NATHAN  
FILE

1932

To: ☒ Director  
☐ Mr. Nathan  
☐ Mr. Tolson  
☐ Mr. Baughman  
☐ Mr. Hughes  
☐ Mr. Egan  
☐ Inspector  
☐ Division Seven  
☐ Bureau Files  
☐ Personnel Files  
☐ Stenographic Pool  
☐ Identification Division

61671



C. A. Appel.  
Room 420.

61-7074-1



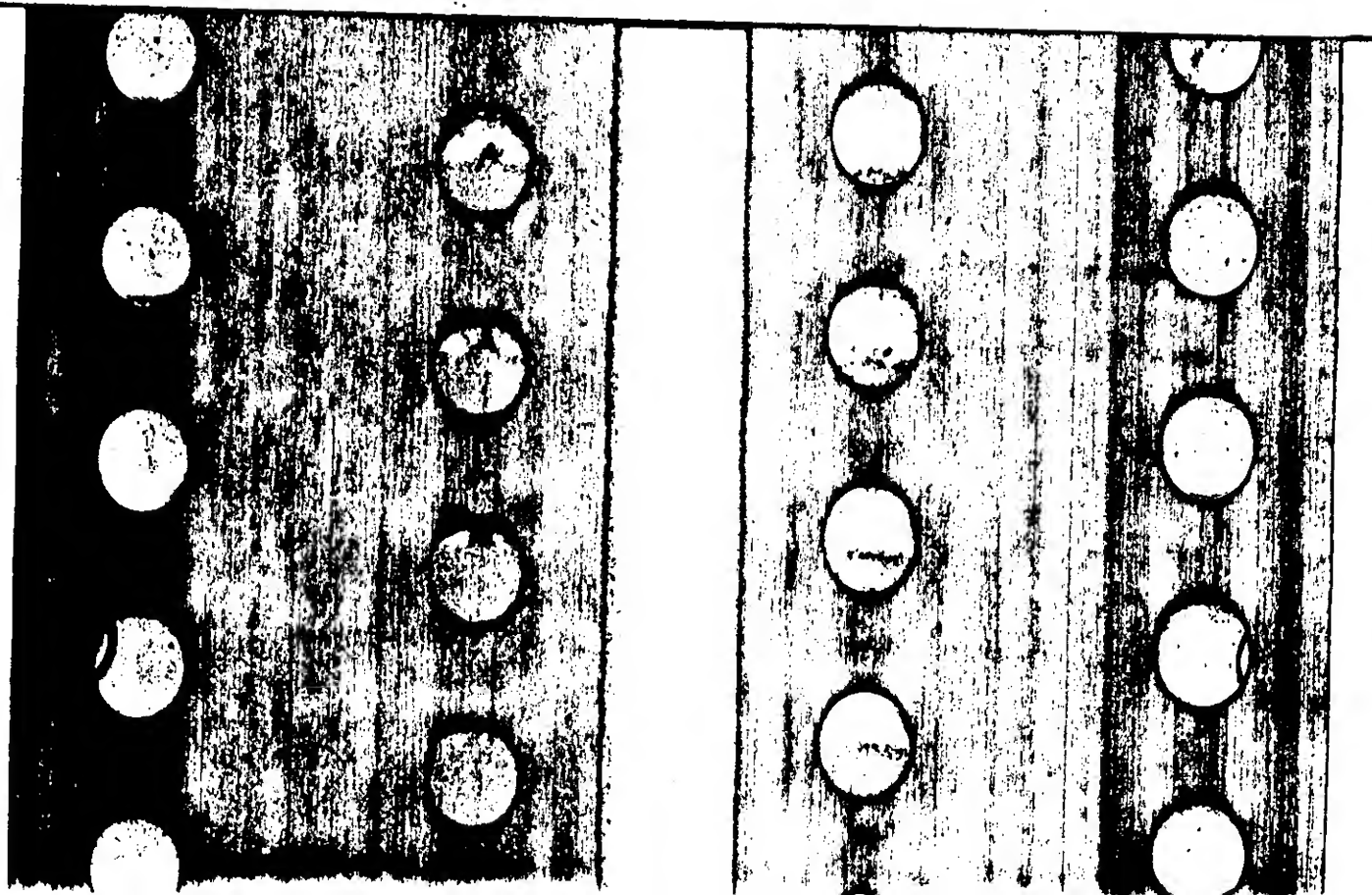


61672

Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Attention of Mr. Appel.

61-7074-1





Office of  
Special Agent in Charge  
Edward J. Brennan.

Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation.

NEW YORK, N.Y.  
June 20th, 1922.

1922  
1894  
62-2708-1

DIRECTOR,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

RE: [REDACTED] b7C

Dear Sir:-

Alleged Government Agent.

[REDACTED]

OS, b7D, b7C

As you know Hearst's International Magazine,  
is printing an expose of Henry Ford's campaign against the  
Jews, and in the second article published in the July issue,  
there is given a list of the Agents employed by C.C. Daniels  
who is alleged to be conducting a Detective Agency on behalf  
of Henry Ford, for the purpose of investigating Jewish activities.  
Among the persons named I note the name [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7C

Yours very truly,

OS, b7C  
JUN 27 1922

Edward J. Brennan  
Special Agent in Charge.

[REDACTED] b7C

62-2708-1

b7C

[REDACTED]  
New York City. 9. 9. 22

Wm J. Burns, Esq.  
Director Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:—

In furtherance of my communication  
of yesterday I herewith inclose a Memorandum  
as requested by you in your letter  
of September 6th.

From facts mentioned in the enclosed  
memorandum you will perceive that on  
account of [REDACTED] <sup>b7C</sup> measures the whole  
affair is devoid of secrecy. I am quite pre-  
pared to face publicity and you may use  
your own discretion in the matter.

Always at your service, I remain

Very respectfully yours

b7C  
b7D

SEP 28 1922

62-3569-2

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 11 1922 A.M.  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

HOOVER

FILE

ack 9-26-22  
J. E. H.  
[Signature]

Memorandum  
for William J. Burns, Director Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

From: [REDACTED] New York City.

Subject: [REDACTED]

From information and belief I know [REDACTED] to be in the employ of <sup>Over</sup> Henry Ford's "The Dearborn Independent" as a political agent. [REDACTED]

About the middle of May last I approached [REDACTED] offering him some interesting material on the anti-semitic movement in Europe. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] exhibited keen interest in the material I submitted to him. [REDACTED]

introduced me to the Editor of "The Dearborn Independent", W. J. Cameron, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] upon examining the data submitted to him expressed himself quite satisfied with the material and promised to take up the matter with his superiors Henry Ford and Edward G.

all OS, b7C, b7D

2

Liebold, General Secretary to Henry Ford. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] elicited the fact that besides [REDACTED] there are other people in New York receiving huge salaries from Mr Ford's organization [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Their duties consisted chiefly in gathering of material against the Jews. [REDACTED] visit to New York was in connection with the first anti Ford article, by Norman Hapgood, which appeared in the "Herald's International". The article is based upon documents stolen from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] E. G. Liebold, General Secretary to Henry Ford, at the Ford's automobile Show - Rooms [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] asked me for some information regarding the Jews. He found out for the first time that my information and that gathered by Ford's sleuths did not quite tally. [REDACTED]  
all OS, b7C, b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] telephoned my attorney, [REDACTED] telling him that he was acting for Mr Henry Ford and that he would like to see him [REDACTED] as soon as convenient [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



JJH:RC

December 1, 1943

Mr. Henry Ford  
Dearborn, Michigan

Dear Mr. Ford:

Since my appearance with Mr. Earl Godwin on a radio broadcast last November 18th, the FBI has received innumerable letters from school teachers, principals, clergymen, as well as citizens in all walks of life, offering their cooperation and advice in a desire to be of assistance in curbing the alarming trend toward juvenile delinquency.

I thought you would like to know of this most favorable reaction to the program and particularly to the ideals which Mr. Godwin has been carrying forward for many months. In focusing public attention upon the fundamental problem of incipient delinquency, he has been doing great work, which should result in a more sound understanding of the problem involved by those who are ultimately responsible.

It was a pleasure for me to be with him on that particular broadcast and in this manner to participate with him in awakening interest in this crucial home-front situation. It is hoped that Mr. Godwin will not hesitate to call upon us whenever we may be of assistance in a matter such as this wherein we have mutual interest.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

(s) J. Edgar Hoover  
Approved by the Director

RECORDED

&  
INDEXED

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62-26225-25-9  
F B I

33 DEC 8 1943

Jan

37 DEC 9 1943

62-26225-25-99



Henry Ford  
Dearborn, Mich.

December  
14  
1943

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

*10/12*

Mr J Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U S Department of Justice  
Washington D C

Dear Mr Hoover:

Mr Ford has asked the writer to thank  
you for your letter of December 1 regarding the  
correspondence received by your department since  
your appearance with Earl Godwin on the broad-  
cast of November 12.

He, of course, listened to your talk  
that evening and enjoyed it very much. He is glad  
to know that it had such good response.

Assuring you of his interest in your  
work and extending his kind regards,

Very truly yours

FRANK CAMPBELL

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

178

EX - 35

62-26225-25-104

F	B	I
18	JAN 3	1944

CRIMINAL REC.

58 JAN 12 1944

*No adre memo*  
*1-11-44*  
*Elom*

*83*  
*for*  
*to ask*

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

U. S. Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

November 28, 1932.

NOV 28 1932 P

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

[REDACTED] Police Headquarters, called yesterday, was referred to me by [REDACTED] and desired to obtain a photographic copy of the photograph and fingerprints of David M. Roll, now living at the Shoreham Hotel, who has been investigated recently by [REDACTED] because he has no visible means of support, yet, apparently he is possessed of unlimited funds. b7C

Roll's record is as follows:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b3

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b)(3) in conjunction  
with Title 28, USC,  
Section 534

[REDACTED] had in his possession a clipping from the Washington Star of November 23, 1932 reading: b7C

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

DEC 8 - 1932

62-27884-1
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 1 1932 A.M.
NATHAN

1 copy to [REDACTED]  
29 of [REDACTED]

Copy to [REDACTED] 10-25-33  
b7C

November 26, 1932.

HENRY FORD SUED IN SHOALS DEAL

John H. Connaughton Charges he was "Frozen Out" of Lease Project.

Henry Ford was named as a defendant today in a suit filed in District Supreme Court by John H. Connaughton, who claims he was "frozen out" of a deal for the leasing of Muscle Shoals by the automobile manufacturer and two other men.

Connaughton, whose address is given as 3447 Oakwood Terrace, says Ford, in anticipation of consummating the deal, placed \$88,000,000 on deposit with banks and caused the incorporation of the Alabama Development Co.

David M. Roll, Shoreham Hotel, and R. Hugh Jarvis, Lee House, were named jointly as defendants with Mr. Ford. The plaintiff asks for "an accounting, a discovery and specific performance" of a contract dealing with the purchase and lease of the Shoals.

Holds Contract Signed.

Through Attorney Herbert S. Ward, the plaintiff says Ford entered into the contract with him and the other two defendants on December 3, 1930. The three were to act as Ford's representatives in the deal, he says.

Later, the bill alleges, Ford wrote a letter suggesting elimination of the plaintiff from participation in the profits. Ford, it is said, dealt with Roll, who is alleged to have misrepresented to Connaughton the progress of the negotiations.

On January 30, 1931, it is stated, Ford made an agreement with Roll to pay a retainer of \$400,000 instead of the original fee of \$250,000 stated in the agreement with the three promoters. Roll, it is claimed, has profited to the extent of \$2,000,000, a share of which should belong to him, Connaughton states. The plaintiff also asserts that he has spent \$15,000 in expenses in furtherance of the original agreement, for which he should be repaid in addition to his share in the profits.

Memo: Director

- 3 -

November 26, 1932.

Letters are Presented.

Attached to the petition are letters from Ford to the late Senator Dwight W. Morrow suggesting elimination of Connaughton, and to David M. Roll, in care of Senator Morrow, at the Senate Office Building, saying that he understood all of Roll's associates had been discarded.

Officials at the War Department said they had no knowledge of any pending deal looking toward the sale or leasing of Muscle Shoals to Ford or his representatives. The manufacturer, they said, stated some time ago that he was no longer interested in the matter."

The Sergeant indicated to [REDACTED] with whom he talked concerning the foregoing that he had reported the Henry Ford angle of this case to one of Ford's representatives in this vicinity. He stated that at the present time there is no definite information with reference to law violations by Roll. b7C

Respectfully,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b7C

U. S. Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation

311 Hurley Wright Bldg.,  
Washington, D.C.,  
November 28, 1932.

RECEIVED

NOV 28 1932 PM

Director,  
United States Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir:

RE: DAVID M. ROLL - CONFIDENCE MAN

In conversation with [REDACTED] of the Metropolitan Police Department today, I learned the following facts concerning the above individual, which I thought might be of interest to you. b7C

On August 6, 1925 David M. Roll was received at the Canon City, Colorado Penitentiary, #13052, to serve a term of five to seven years on conviction of a confidence game at Denver. He was sentenced at Denver, Colorado for this offense on May 2, 1925, and I understand his minimum sentence was due to expire in May, 1930. This man's record shows that he is a lawyer. He is 5' 9 1/2" tall, has gray eyes, fair complexion, gray hair, weighs about 190 lbs., wears glasses, and is about 45 years of age. Since about the time of his release from the Canon City, Colorado Penitentiary he has been living in Washington, D.C. For some months he has lived at the Shoreham Hotel, where he maintains two suites at a monthly expense of approximately \$300. He has been spending money quite freely, and recently bought a Pierce-Arrow limousine, as well as a Ford. He has visited the race tracks in the vicinity quite frequently. His source of income is unknown. The important part, however, is that he has at various times claimed to be a representative and lobbyist for Henry Ford, the Dupont interests, and also claims to know numerous Senators. He recently has made statements to the effect that he knows President Roosevelt, and also Mr. Shouse, who is, according to my understanding, a prominent Democratic leader. b7C

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

DEC 2 - 1932

COPIES DESTROYED  
170 AUG 14 1964

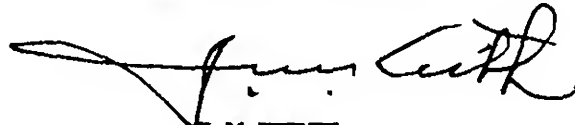
62-27884-1	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 1 1932 A	
F	
NATHAN	

-2-

[REDACTED] of the Police Department on several different occasions prior to November 21st talked with [REDACTED] head of the Ford plant at Alexandria, Virginia, who informed him that Roll was not a representative of Henry Ford, and so far as he knew had no connection with the latter. b7C

On November 23rd, a story appeared in the Washington Star to the effect that through Attorney Herbert S. Ward, one J. H. Connaughton, of 3447 Oakwood Terrace, Washington, D.C., had brought suit against Henry Ford, David M. Roll of the Shoreham Hotel, and R. Hugh Jarvis of the Lee House, claiming that he had been swindled out of \$15,000.00 expense money in connection with a proposed lease of Muscle Shoals. This evidently is Roll's current racket, and I forward this information only as a matter of general interest, believing that it does not come within our jurisdiction and that I should not make any investigation of the matter unless so instructed by you.

Very truly yours,



J.M. KEITH,  
Special Agent in Charge.

JMK: [REDACTED]

b7C

## HENRY FORD SUED IN SHOALS DEAL

John H. Connaughton Charges he was "Frozen Out" of Lease Project.

Henry Ford was named as a defendant today in a suit filed in District Supreme Court by John H. Connaughton, who claims he was "frozen out" of a deal for the leasing of Muscle Shoals by the automobile manufacturer and two other men.

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David M. Roll, Shoreham Hotel, and R. Hugh Jarvis, Lee House, were named jointly as defendants with Mr. Ford. The plaintiff asks for "an accounting, a discovery and specific performance" of a contract dealing with the purchase and lease of the Shoals.

Holds Contract Signed.

Through Attorney Herbert S. Ward, the plaintiff says Ford entered into the contract with him and the other two defendants on December 3, 1930. The three were to act as Ford's representatives in the deal, he says.

Later, the bill alleges, Ford wrote a letter suggesting elimination of the plaintiff from participation in the profits. Ford, it is said, dealt with Roll, who is alleged to have misrepresented to Connaughton the progress of the negotiations.

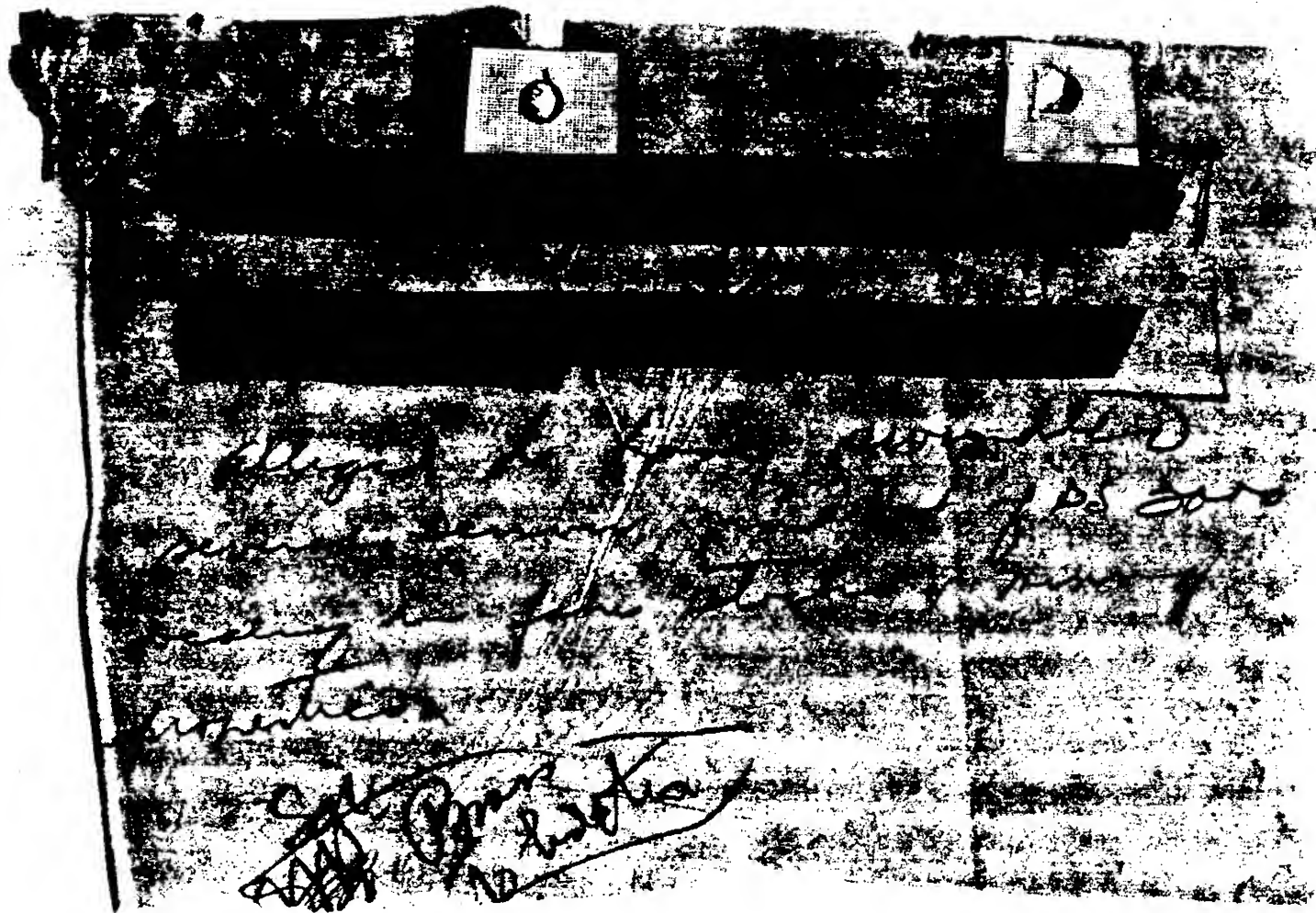
On January 30, 1931, it is stated, Ford made an agreement with Roll to pay a retainer of \$400,000 instead of the original fee of \$250,000 stated in the agreement with the three promoters. Roll, it is claimed, has profited to the extent of \$2,000,000, a share of which should belong to him, Connaughton states. The plaintiff also asserts that he has spent \$15,000 in expenses in furtherance of the original agreement, for which he should be repaid in addition to his share in the profits.

Letters are Presented

Attached to the petition are letters from Ford to the late Senator Dwight W. Morrow suggesting elimination of Connaughton, and to David M. Roll, in care of Senator Morrow, at the Senate Office Building, saying that he understood all of Roll's associates had been discarded.

Officials at the War Department said they had no knowledge of any pending deal looking toward the sale or leasing of Muscle Shoals to Ford or his representatives. The manufacturer, they said, stated some time ago that he was no longer interested in the matter

62-27844-1 "Star"  
11/23/32



(b)(3) in conjunction with Title 28, U.S.C., Section 534



FRANK S. BRIGHT  
HUSTON THOMPSON  
H. STANLEY HINRICH'S  
LEE P. WARREN  
RICHARD R. BRIGHT

BRIGHT, THOMPSON, HINRICH'S & WARREN  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
SOUTHERN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TELEPHONE  
NATIONAL OI  
CABLE  
"BRIGHT"

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Clegg

April 28, 1933.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Enclosed please find the reference  
to the telegrams of the Western Union and Postal that  
I desire to have checked.

Cordially yours,

[REDACTED] M-Encl.

b7C

[REDACTED]  
b7C

[REDACTED] had to leave the office before this letter  
could be transcribed. b7C

*Letter*  
b7C → [REDACTED]

RECORDED

MAY 2 - 1933

62-27884-4	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 1 1933 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
DIRECTOR	FILE

TELEGRAMS OF THE POSTAL  
TELEGRAPH AND WESTERN  
UNION TO BE SEARCHED AND  
CHECKED.

Check Postal Telegraph files for following:

[REDACTED]

Feb. 1, 1932, U.D.C. 6 x y H 20 3:45 P.M.  
Detroit, Mich 20 David M. Roll  
3109 Woodley Road, N.W., Washington, D.C.  
signed Henry Ford.

Feb. 5, 1932 U.D.C. 6 x L c 42 8:15 A.M.  
Detroit, Mich. 42 David M. Roll  
3109 Woodley Rd., N.W., Washington, D.C.  
signed Henry Ford

Feb. 17, 1932, U.D.C. NL 45  
Detroit, Mich 45, David M. Roll  
3109 Woodley Road N.W., Washington, D.C.  
signed Henry Ford

*all  
05, b7C*

Check Western Union files for following:

[REDACTED]

Jan. 12, 1931 P.M. 432 Z.A. 187 16 N.M. Detroit  
Mich, 12.  
David M. Roll, Pennsylvania Hotel  
New York City, N.Y., signed Ford

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Apr. 20, 1932 to Henry Ford Personal  
Delivery Requested, Detroit, Mich  
signed David M. Roll.

Mar. 24, 1932 X T 5 49 M. 3:45 P.M.  
Detroit, Mich 49 David M. Roll  
3109 Woodley Road, N.W., Washington, D.C.  
signed Henry Ford

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Apr. 8, 1932 U. D. C. 24 D.L. 40 3:15 P.M.  
Detroit Mich, 30 David M. Roll,  
3109 Woodley Road N.W., Washington, D.C.  
signed Henry Ford

Apr. 11, 1932 U. D. C. 26 D.L. 52 C 3:45 P.M.  
Detroit, Mich 52 David M. Roll  
3109 Woodley Rd., N.W., Washington, D.C.  
signed Henry Ford

all  
OS  
b7C

Apr. 22, 1932 U.D.C. 26 x L N.L. 50  
3:45 P.M. Detroit Mich. 50  
David M. Roll 3109 Woodley Rd., N.W.,  
Washington, D.C. sgd., Henry Ford

Apr. 23, 1932, U.D.C. 26 x 6 15 3 45 P.M.  
Detroit Mich 15 David M. Roll  
3109 Woodley Rd., N.W., Washington, D.C. sgd. Henry Ford

July 18, 1932 H. A. 5 U.D.C. x 71 3 40 P.M.  
New York City, N.Y. 71  
David M. Roll 3109 Woodley Rd., N.W.,  
Washington, D.C., sgd, Henry Ford

July 24, 1932 U.D.C. 26 x L T 21 3 45 P.M.  
Detroit Mich, 21, David M. Roll  
3109 Woodley Rd., N.W., Washington, D.C.  
sgd. Henry Ford.

July 25, 1932 U. D. C. 26 x LT 63 13 Extra  
8 45 A.M. Detroit Mich, 63  
13 extra, David M. Roll 3109 Woodley Rd. N.W. Washington, D.C.  
sgd. Henry Ford.

JKH/cmf

RECORDED

April 28, 1933.

INDEXED

MAY 2 - 1933

My dear [REDACTED]

With reference to David Morton Hall, I am enclosing herewith two photostatic copies of this man's photograph and fingerprints appearing in our Identification Division. I have ascertained upon referring to our files that last November, Hall was under investigation by [REDACTED] of the Metropolitan Police Department, because Hall apparently had no visible means of support, though possessed of unlimited funds. Our record shows that on August 6, 1925, David M. Hall was received at the Canon City, Colorado penitentiary, as #13052, to serve a term of five to seven years upon conviction of a confidence game in Denver. He was sentenced at Denver, Colorado for this offense on May 2, 1925.

This man's record shows that he is a lawyer. He is 5' 9" tall, has gray eyes, fair complexion and gray hair, weighs about 190 pounds, wears glasses, and is about 45 years of age. Since about the time of his release from the Canon City, Colorado penitentiary, which is understood to have been some time in 1930, he has been living in Washington, D. C., and in the latter part of 1932 was living at the Shoreham Hotel, where he maintained two suites at a monthly expense of approximately six hundred dollars. He has been reported as spending money quite freely, having purchased a Pierce-Arrow limousine, as well as a Ford automobile. He was also reported as a frequent visitor at the race tracks in the vicinity of Washington. His source of income is unknown. He has at various times claimed to be a representative and lobbyist for the Ford and the Dupont interests, and also claims to know numerous Senators, President Roosevelt, and Mr. Shouse, prominent Democratic leader.

On November 23, 1932 a story appeared in the Washington Star to the effect that through Attorney Herbert S. Ward, one S. H. Cunningham of 3447 Oakwood Terrace, Washington, D. C., had brought suit against Henry

1 Copy to Mr. [REDACTED]

10-25-33

b7C

COPIES DESTROYED

170 AUG 14 1964

4-28-33.

Ford, David H. Hall of the Shoreham Hotel, and E. Hugh Jarvis of the Lee House, claiming that he had been swindled out of \$15,000 expense money in connection with a proposed lease of Maple Shoals.

If there is any further information which you desire concerning this man and you will let me know, I will be very glad to try to procure it for you.

With reference to the list of telegrams of the Postal and Western Union telegraph companies, to be searched and checked in connection with this matter, I am having this matter given immediate attention. It is not certain yet whether the telegrams of the dates in the early part of 1932 have been destroyed, but I have made certain that no further telegrams will be destroyed until the present search is completed.

With regard to the matter in the E. M. Harriman bank at New York, a very careful check of that institution's records fails to disclose any information along the lines sought by you.

I have also been in contact with [redacted] at Morgan and Company. [redacted] has requested of Morgan and Company a list of all depositors whose accounts amount to \$100,000 or over, and this list is expected by Monday, May first. If Hall has an account with this company in the amount of \$1,000,000, it will, of course, be indicated in this list. b7C

If there is any further assistance I can be to you in this or any other matter, do not hesitate to command me.

With expressions of my best regards, I am,

Cordially yours,

Director.

Enclosure #712720

[REDACTED] b7C

May 11, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,  
United States Bureau of Investigation,  
370 Lexington Avenue, Room 1403,  
New York City.

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-27884-11	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 12 1933 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED] OS, b7C

[REDACTED] OS, b7C

For your confidential information, these communications are apparently in connection with an alleged contract between David M. Roll and Henry Ford, whereby Roll was to act as agent for Ford in the purchase of Muscle Shoals. Some of the correspondence in this case has been determined to be spurious and it is not known whether the contract itself is an actual one, although there are some indications that there may have been legitimate contact between Ford and Roll.

[REDACTED] OS, b7C

Please see that a report is mailed to the Bureau at the very earliest practicable date.

Very truly yours,

Enc. #332429.

Director.

RECEIVED  
MAY 12 1933

OS  
b7C

[REDACTED]

Suggest Department of Justice check David M. Roll's income tax return for 1931, to ascertain whether or not payments purporting to have been made by Ford to Roll in the sum of \$250,000, plus \$150,000, total \$400,000. See letter of January 4, 1931. Also, see letter of January 12, 1931.

Suggest that R. G. Dunn & Co. be interviewed to ascertain whether or not about January 14, 1931, their representative interviewed Henry Ford with regard to the financial status of David M. Roll. See Ford's letter of January 14, 1931.

Check David M. Roll's income tax return for 1932 for item of \$2,000,000, purporting to have been paid by Ford to Roll on or about July 22, 1932, Irving Trust Co., New York City.

[REDACTED]

OS, b7C

Check income tax return of Henry Ford for item of \$210,000, purporting to have been paid by Roll to Ford on or about July 22, 1932, through Morgan & Co. by check payable to W. T. Aitkin.

[REDACTED] data particularly set out in contract of July 22, 1932, between Henry Ford and David M. Roll. b7C

[REDACTED]

OS, b7C

OS  
b7C

December 3, 1930.

First National Bank,  
Detroit, Michigan.

Check signed Henry Ford, payable to David M. Roll, for  
\$100,000. cashed on the Second National Bank, Washington, D. C.

Ascertain if Henry Ford had an account at the First  
National Bank, Detroit, and if check was cleared through.



██████ b7C  
May 11, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,  
United States Bureau of Investigation,  
625 Lafayette Building,  
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir:

In connection with a confidential investigation of an alleged contract between Henry Ford and one David M. Roll, whereby the latter was to act as agent for Ford in the proposed purchase of Muscle Shoals, it is desired to immediately ascertain information from the First National Bank of Detroit, Michigan, as follows:

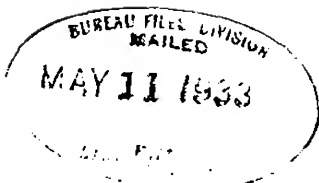
On December 2, 1930, a check signed "Henry Ford", payable to David M. Roll, for \$100,000, was cashed on the Second National Bank of Washington, D. C.

It is desired to ascertain if Henry Ford had an account at the First National Bank, Detroit, Michigan, and if so, if this check cleared through the same.

This matter should be handled confidentially and without in any way disclosing to the bank or other party the nature of the investigation.

Very truly yours,

Director.



RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-27884-12

MAY 12 1933 P.M.

FILE

b7C  
May 11, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,  
United States Bureau of Investigation,  
201 Liberty National Life Building,  
Birmingham, Alabama.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-27884-13	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 12 1933 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

Dear Sir:

It is desired that you immediately ascertain, possibly through the city directory of Birmingham, Alabama, the present location of [REDACTED] b7C

For your confidential information, an investigation is being conducted at the present time concerning an alleged contract between Henry Ford and David M. Roll, whereby Roll was to act as Ford's agent in the purchase of Muscle Shoals. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

OS  
b7C  
This matter is extremely confidential and it is imperative that it be given immediate attention.

Very truly yours,

Director.

BUREAU FILES DIVISION  
MAILED  
MAY 11 1933

X [REDACTED] b7c  
W  
May 11, 1933.

Special Agent in Charge,  
United States Bureau of Investigation,  
Hurley-Wright Building,  
Washington, D. C.

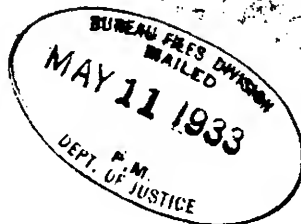
Dear Sir:

Please immediately conduct an interview at the office of  
Dun and Bradstreet (formerly R. G. Dun and Company) to ascertain  
confidentially whether on or about January 14, 1931, its  
representative interviewed Henry Ford with regard to the  
financial status of David H. Roll. This is in connection with  
the David H. Roll matter which has previously been in your of-  
fice.

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED



62-27884-14  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAY 12 1933  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FILE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Mr. Nathan.....  
Mr. Tolson.....  
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....  
Mr. Clegg.....  
Mr. Glavin.....  
Mr. Ladd.....  
Mr. Nichols.....  
Mr. Rosen.....  
Mr. Tracy.....  
Mr. Carson.....  
Mr. Coffey.....  
Mr. Hendon.....  
Mr. Jones.....  
Mr. Mumford.....  
Mr. Quinn.....  
Mr. Nease.....  
Miss Gandy.....

**H. S. Bureau of Investigation**

Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

May 13, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

K  
g  
w

VWH: [REDACTED] b7C

I accompanied Mr. Marinar, representing the Senate Committee investigating finances in New York, to the office of [REDACTED] this morning. Mr. Marinar advised [REDACTED] that in the course of their inquiries at New York they had run across the Henry Ford - David M. P. Roll contract and correspondence; that Mr. Peccora of the Senate Committee was extremely interested in this correspondence and had set on foot an investigation to determine the facts with regard to it; that he had learned that the Bureau of Investigation was conducting some inquiry, as the New York Office had called for certain information concerning deposits in Morgan and Company, and that Mr. Peccora planned to go thoroughly into the entire matter. b7C

[REDACTED] stated that he had been commissioned by the very highest sources to look into this situation; that he had made some preliminary inquiry and rather felt that the entire set-up is a fake, but, of course, could not be at all certain of that until he had made a complete inquiry. He stated that the interests he represented desired that the matter be considered confidential for a time at least, until the facts were known, and he suggested to Mr. Marinar that he might so inform Mr. Peccora when he returned to New York. Mr. Marinar intimated that Mr. Peccora might be reluctant to delay an investigation, but [REDACTED] advised Mr. Marinar that he should merely convey [REDACTED] message to Mr. Peccora and, of course, Mr. Peccora would necessarily be guided by his own judgment in the matter, but he did want Mr. Peccora to know of the situation as it existed here. b7C

Upon leaving [REDACTED] office and in conversation with Mr. Marinar I advised him that I was glad of the opportunity to be with him and [REDACTED] so that he might see the position of the Bureau of Investigation in this matter; that is, that it was merely conducting such inquiries as [REDACTED] requested; that the matter was in the hands of [REDACTED] and that the Bureau had no control over it, but was following out the leads submitted by [REDACTED] from time to time and cooperating with him; of course, in every way. b7C

Respectfully,

*V. W. Hughes*  
V. W. Hughes.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

MAY 18 1933

62-27884-19	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 17 1933 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
NATHAN	FILE

K  
W-  
U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

625 Lafayette Building

Detroit, Michigan

May 18, 1933

Mr. Nathan

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Edwards

Mr. Clegg

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director  
United States Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: HENRY FORD  
DAVID M. ROLL  
Proposed Purchase of Muscle Shoals

Dear Sir:

Referring to Bureau communication dated May 11, and also to telephonic communication had with Mr. Vincent Hughes of the Bureau requesting a confidential investigation concerning a check signed Henry Ford payable to David M. Roll, cashed December 3, 1930, on the Second National Bank of Washington, D. C.:

Please be advised that this matter has been gone into very carefully, the result of which was prepared in memorandum form by Special Agent [redacted] of this office, copies of which are being transmitted herewith. b7C

In connection with the above a letter dated April 28, 1933, was received at this office from the Washington Field Office requesting an investigation at the Postal Telegraph Offices in Detroit in an effort to locate certain telegrams sent to David M. Roll, one signed by the First National Bank of Detroit and others by Henry Ford. The result of inquiry in compliance with this request is set out in my communication to the Washington Field Office dated May 2, 1933.

Very truly yours,

*Wm. Larson*

Wm. Larson  
Special Agent in Charge

WL:vs  
Incl.

RECORDED

INDEXED

MAY 20 1933

62-27884-23	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
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Div. One	

# UNITED STATES BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

N.Y. FILE NO. **62-3285**

ML.

NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	CHARACTER
	5/14/33	5/13, 15, 16/33	
ALLEGED PURCHASE OF MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING HENRY FORD.			MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] New York City, states David M. Roll, Washington, D. C., approached him in 1930 with reference to securing his services as attorney in connection with the proposed sale of certain oil property or leases and options involving total consideration of \$5,000,000. which he owned jointly with R. Hugh Jarvis, Washington, D. C.

[REDACTED]  
his services were not used in that connection.

OS, b7c, b7D

## DETAILS:

### REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated May 11, 1933.

### DETAILS:

AT NEW YORK CITY

[REDACTED]

OS, b7c, b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	62-27884-24	RECORDED AND INDEXED MAY 20 1933
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:		UNITED STATES	CHECKED OFF:
3-Bureau 2-Philadelphia 3-New York 1-M. O'Leary Encls. for Bureau and Philadelphia Offices		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ROUTED TO: <i>[initials]</i> FILE	CHECKED OFF: INDEXED: <i>[initials]</i>

4-6  
5-14-33  
[REDACTED]



Ford  
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

January  
Fourteenth  
Nineteen-Thirty-One

Mr. David M. Roll  
care Senator Dwight W. Morrow,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

Today greatly to my surprise I had a caller purporting to be a local representative of R.G.Dunn who wanted to know what my connections are, if any, with you. He also wanted to know if you were a man with considerable means.

I answered him by stating that I knew you fairly well and that I had no direct business relations with you, and that in my opinion you were a man of considerable means.

I am at a loss to know what this means.

I am fearful that there has been some leaks some where and am writing you direct to inform you of the dangerous situation confronting you if there be any leaks. I trust that you will handle our own matters in a strictly confidential manner.

Yours very truly,

*Henry Ford*

HF/G

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170 AUG 14 1964

Ward  
SHANNON, KENNEDY

January  
Twelfth  
Nineteen-Thirty-One.

Mr. David M. Roll  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

2.

This letter is to agree with you that I, Henry Ford shall have deposited in or with the Chatham Phoenix National Bank of New York, the sum of Eighty Eight Million Dollars, (\$88,000,000.00) same to be deposited within the next twenty days to the credit of yourself and the Alabama Development Company jointly as trustees for said Alabama Development Company, and the same to be used by you at your own direction to pay the United States Government for the improvements on the property known as "Muscle Shoals" and the remainder to be paid to yourself for services rendered in obtaining for me a lease upon said Muscle Shoals.

It is herein agreed that you shall check upon said account at will and that you shall account to me at the end of each calendar month for such checks drawn upon said bank acct., and that you may personally receive any and all interest obtainable upon the daily balance of

COPIES DESTROYED said account and that the interest shall be your



Ford

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

- T W O -

own money free from any and all claim from me or my agent or the Alabama Development Company,

It is further agreed that you shall draw at once upon said deposit a check payable to yourself for the sum of Four Hundred Thousand (\$400,000.00) Dollars same to be in full payment for the retainer agreed upon in a certain contract entered into with you as of December 3rd, 1930, which check shall include the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$150,000.00) Dollars which represents the agreed sum for expenses for your personal use and etc.,

It is agreed that you may pay out of the said Eighty Eight Million Dollars any reasonable sum that you may deem suitable and justifiable for payment to associate counsel, same not to exceed the sum of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, which shall when paid be in full payment for any additional legal counsel that you may employ.

I am giving you this letter to assure you that the above sums shall be deposited as herein agreed within twenty days from date, or sooner provided that I have completed my Income tax report which is now in the offing.

HF/G

Yours truly,

*Henry Ford*



**Nord**  
PEARSON, MICHIGAN

January  
Fourth  
Nineteen-Thirty-One.

Senator Dwight W. Morrow  
Senate Office Building,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

In reply to your letter of December 31st., concerning the matter of depositing the Eighty Eight Million Dollars as per the Roll contract, beg to say that it would be alright with me to now make the deposit in say two banks dividing the deposits equally between the two banks.

I agree with you that it would give Mr. Roll some prestige to place this money in banks and he then would be able to refer to the same provided, that the deposits were made in the name of some other individual than myself.

I have talked this over with my local attorney and he advises that I form an owning corporation under the name "Alabama Development Company" with a capitalization of some ten or more million and then deposit the money in the two banks to the joint credit of Mr. Roll and the Alabama Development Company, same to be used as per the agreement with Mr. Roll.

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170 AUG 14 1964

Ford  
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

T W O

I note what you say about Mr. Roll requesting that this money be deposited in the First National Bank of Muskogee, Oklahoma, and I have since the receipt of your letter thought the matter over and have reached the conclusion that if this bank is more acceptable to Mr. Roll it would be alright to deposit half of the full amount including the \$250,000.00 retainer and the \$150,000.00 agreed expense money and then check the two items out to Mr. Roll from the First National Bank account at Muskogee. I do not believe that the Muskogee Bank is large enough to safely accept the full amount and I suggest an additional bank to be selected by Mr. Roll, the only restrictions being that it shall not be placed in any bank with which I have an account or am interested.

I suggest that this corporation be formed at once and the deposits made and then Mr. Roll can receive his fee and expense money and also he will be able to refer to the fact that the money with which to pay the United States Government is on deposit and belonging to the Alabama Development Company, as I can use officers that are in no manner connected with me and that live in Alabama, and in

Ford

DEAR MR. M. L. LEE

T H R E E

that way it would be a concealed identity.

If this meets with the approval of Mr. Roll and yourself, I suggest that you wire me at once in order that I might arrange to have the Alabama Development Company formed and then deposit the money in the two banks including the First National Bank of Muskogee, Oklahoma, and some additional bank to be selected by Mr. Roll or yourself.

I wish to congratulate you on the manner in which you have so ably handled this Shoals matter in such secretive manner and as quickly as we are ready to progress please advise me and I shall then arrange a personal meeting with you and Mr. Roll.

Wishing you a most prosperous and Happy New Year, I am,

Yours truly,

Henry Ford

HF/G

CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT.

THIS CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT made and entered into this the 3rd. day of December A. D. 1930, by and between Henry Ford of Dearborn, Michigan, and David M. Roll of Washington, D. C.,

W I T N E S S E T H:

That for and in consideration of One Hundred (\$100.00)- Dollars cash in hand paid to David M. Roll by Henry Ford the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged and for other good and valuable consideration paid to said David M. Roll by Henry Ford the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged and for the further consideration that said Henry Ford agreeing to pay to said David M. Roll or his agent the sum of EIGHTY EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS (\$88,000,000.00) same to be paid to said David M. Roll for services rendered and to be rendered to said Henry Ford as hereinafter set out to wit; That said David M. Roll is this day employed by said Henry Ford to represent said Henry Ford in the negotiation and purchase of the improvements now upon the premises at Muscle Shoals which property now belongs to and is the property of the United States Government and that said Roll is to use his best efforts to obtain a lease from the United States Government for a term of ninety nine years from date hereof and that said Muscle Shoals is to be turned over to said Henry Ford and at which time said Henry Ford agrees and binds himself to pay to said David

the sum of Eighty Eight Million Dollars in

which sum is to be used in paying to the United States Government for all the development and improvements now upon said Muscle Shoals and that what ever sum that is left over after said Roll pays and satisfies the United States Government for all the development and improvements now upon said Muscle Shoals the residue, if any, is to be retained by said David M. Roll as his fee in perfecting said negotiations between the United States Government and Henry Ford, concerning the leasing of Muscle Shoals upon a royalty basis, and that said David M. Roll agrees and binds himself to use his best efforts in obtaining for said Ford the above property from the United States Government and that as quickly as possible and practicable and that said Roll agrees and binds himself to pay out of the Eighty Eight Million Dollars all cost of negotiating and obtaining said Muscle Shoals from the United States Government including any and all costs, fees, and expenses, and that said David M. Roll shall be the sole and only legal representative of said Henry Ford in this undertaking and that said David M. Roll shall not at any time use any unlawful or unfair means in his attempt to obtain a lease upon said property from the United States Government and that it is distinctively understood and agreed herein that said David M. Roll shall not bind said Henry Ford for any indebtedness or cost or fees in any of said negotiations save and except as follows; It is agreed herein that in case said David M. Roll uses his best efforts in trying to obtain a lease

upon said Muscle Shoals from the United States Government and in such efforts fails to obtain said lease for said Ford as above set out then in that event said Henry Ford agrees and binds himself to pay to said David M. Roll as his fee for such services the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$250,000.00 ) Dollars which shall be in full of all demands and in settlement of all fees and costs incurred by said David M. Roll in attempting to obtain a lease upon said property for said Henry Ford.

It is further agreed and made a part of this contract that in the event said David M. Roll elects to employ additional legal talent to assist him in this undertaking then in that event said David M. Roll shall pay all cost and fees that may be incurred by employing any additional counsel and that said Henry Ford shall not under any circumstances be held liable for any additional fees over and above the Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$250,000.00) Dollars as hereinabove set out.

It is agreed that said David M. Roll shall be the sole and only representative of said Henry Ford in this undertaking and that said Roll shall have TWO (2) years time from this date in which to perfect said negotiations with the United States Government and that said Roll shall from time to time give to said Ford a written statement as to the progress being made in said negotiations, and that any and all of said written reports shall be kept in strict confidence by said Henry Ford and that at any

time that said David M. Roll shall have reached an agreement with the United States Government wherein and whereby said Muscle Shoals can and will be turned over to said Henry Ford upon a lease and royalty basis as herein set out then said Henry Ford agrees and binds himself to deposit in the Chemical National Bank of New York City, New York, the full sum of Eighty Eight Million Dollars which sum shall be used in payment to the said United States Government the cost price of the inventory for the improvements and equipment now upon the premises known as "Muscle Shoals," and as agreed the residue, if any, shall be paid to David M. Roll in full settlement of all costs and fees for services rendered and to be rendered to said Henry Ford as hereintoforeset out.

It is agreed that in case said David M. Roll fails to obtain said lease from the United States Government after a two years period from this date, then said Henry Ford shall pay to said David M. Roll the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars which shall be in full settlement of all costs and fees due said David M. Roll by said Henry Ford as per the terms of this agreement.

This contract and agreement signed in duplicate this the 3rd, day of December A. D. 1930.

Henry Ford  
David M. Roll

Raymond J. Conter  
Witness:

For Value received I hereby sell and assign an undivided one half interest in and to the contract to Dr. Hugh Farmer this the Tenth Day of January 1931.  
David M. Roll



CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT

THIS CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT, made and  
entered into this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of July, A.D. 1932, by and  
between HENRY FORD, of DEARBORN, MICHIGAN, and DAVID M. ROLL,  
of WASHINGTON, D.C.,

W I T N E S S E T H :

That for and in consideration of One Hundred  
Dollars (\$100.00) cash in hand paid to David M. Roll, by  
Henry Ford, the receipt thereof is hereby acknowledged, and  
for other good and valuable considerations hereby acknowledged,  
said David M. Roll herein agrees and binds himself to continue  
to act as Trustee for a certain group of individuals as per  
the terms of a certain contract entered into by and between  
said David M. Roll and Henry Ford, which contract bears  
date of December 3, 1930, said contract is hereto referred  
to for the purpose of more fully describing said contract,  
and

WHEREAS, it is the wishes of said Henry Ford  
and said David M. Roll to continue said above referred to  
contract for a period of two (2) years from this date, and  
it is further understood and agreed that the sum of \$88,000.00<sup>00</sup>  
now deposited to the credit of David M. Roll as Trustee,  
shall remain intact and in bank until such time or times  
as it shall be deemed necessary to use said sum or any part  
thereof in payment to the United States Government for

certain prop erties known as Muscle Shoales.

It is further agreed herein that said David M. Roll shall be and is entitled to receive any and all sums that he may be able to obtain from said bank or banks as payment of daily balance upon the deposit of said sum herein mentioned and that said Roll shall receive quarterly any and all sums to be paid by said bank or banks as payment upon the daily balance of said sum of \$880,000.00 and that any and all payment or payments by said bank or banks as daily balance upon said sum shall be the exclusive money and property of said David M. Roll to be used by him as he may see fit and proper with no accounting to me or to anyone else for such sum or sums received.

It is further agreed herein that when this contract shall have terminated on or before two years from this date, said David M. Roll shall receive, as an additional sum for services rendered and to be rendered, in acting in the capacity of Trustee, as hereinabove mentioned, a sum not to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) which sum when received shall be in full payment to said David M. Roll for any and all fees as hereinabove set out.

It is distinctly understood that this agreement does not in any manner or form change the terms of a substitute agreement entered into by and between the parties hereto which substitute agreement bears date of the 18th day of May, 1932, and the same is hereby referred to and made

a part hereof for the purpose of more fully describing  
said agreement.

It is further agreed herein that said  
Henry Ford shall have a few days time in which to arrange  
with said bank to handle said Trustee fund of \$88,000,000<sup>00</sup>  
as per the terms of the original agreement herein mentioned  
and that said David M. Roll shall not withdraw or attempt  
to withdraw any sum or sums of money from said bank or  
banks until said above agreement with said banks shall  
have been reached provided it shall not take longer than  
ten (10) days from this date to perfect said arrangement  
with said bank or banks.

It is agreed herein that said Henry Ford  
shall make said arrangements as hereinabove agreed as  
quickly and speedily as possible at all times protecting  
the interest of each party hereto.

11/4 This contract signed in duplicate this  
the 3 day of July, A.D. 1932.

WITNESSES:

Genevieve Barth Henry Ford  
Kathleen M. Noel David M. Roll

b7c  
62-27884-24

RECORDED

May 19, 1933.

[REDACTED] b7c  
Washington, D. C.

My dear [REDACTED] b7c

Supplementing my letter addressed to you under date of May 17 with reference to investigation concerning the activities of David M. Hall and the Muscle Shoals project, I desire to advise that I am in receipt of a report from my New York Office reciting the result of an interview with [REDACTED] of New York, concerning the letters and telegrams passing between his office and Mr. Hall, which in substance is as follows: b7c, b7D

[REDACTED]  
OS, b7c, b7D

[REDACTED]  
OS, b7c, b7D  
[Signature]

[REDACTED] b7C  
5/19/33.

Some difficulty has been experienced in interviewing [REDACTED] but I am informed that he was interviewed yesterday and that a report will be forthcoming today or at the latest tomorrow, which will be promptly submitted to you. b7C

With reference to the alleged account of Roll with Morgan and Company, I desire to advise that I am in receipt of telephonic advice to the effect that [REDACTED] the list of all depositors whose accounts amount to \$100,000.00 or more fails to include David M. Roll. This negatives the information to the effect that Roll had an account with Morgan and Company of \$1,000,000. b7C

With reference to your request for a check of the First National Bank at Detroit to determine whether a check signed by Henry Ford on that bank had been cashed at the Second National Bank, Washington, D. C., and cleared at the First National Bank of Detroit, there is enclosed herewith a copy of a memorandum prepared by Special Agent [REDACTED] Detroit, dated May 18, which describes the inquiry made and fails to account for any such check. b7C

In Agent [REDACTED] memorandum will also be found reference to an interview with [REDACTED] of Dun and Bradstreet, Incorporated, which was occasioned by your request to determine whether a representative of H. G. Dun had interviewed Henry Ford on or about January 14, 1931, with reference to the financial status of David M. Roll. You will note that no record of such an interview could be found at the office of Dun and Bradstreet, Incorporated. I might say that inquiry was likewise made at the office of Dun and Bradstreet at Washington and no record of such an interview was found here. b7C

I shall be glad to inform you further promptly upon receipt of reports covering the interview with [REDACTED] further efforts to ← b7C identify the two telegrams sent from Birmingham, Alabama, and examination of the income tax returns of Henry Ford for the year 1932. I might state that the tax return of Henry Ford for 1931 [REDACTED]

With expressions of my best regards, I am

Cordially yours,

b3 per IRS

Enclosure #324319.

Director.

(b)(3) in conjunction with Title 26, U.S.C. Sections 6103 and 7213

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

RECORDED May 10, 1933

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

MAY 24 1933

62-27884-29  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAY 23 1933 A.M.  
F. B. I.  
THAN Div. One Div. Three FIF

I called upon [redacted] at 10:00 A. M. this morning [redacted] had a memorandum dated May 8 setting out certain suggestions to determine the authenticity of letters and telegrams. He left with me a copy of that memorandum, which is attached hereto. At my request he also left with me the following described papers, for which I signed a receipt, as I felt it would be of considerable assistance to the Bureau in its inquiry to have some of the basic information available: b7C

1. Air Mail letter dated January 4, 1931, addressed to Senator Dwight W. Morrow, Washington, signed by Henry Ford, consisting of three pages.

2. Letter dated January 12, 1931, addressed to David M. Roll, signed by Henry Ford, consisting of two pages.

3. Air Mail letter dated January 14, 1931, addressed to David M. Roll, Washington, and signed by Henry Ford, consisting of one page.

4. Contract between Henry Ford and David M. Roll, dated December 3, 1930, consisting of four pages.

5. Contract between Henry Ford and David M. Roll, dated July 11, 1932, consisting of three pages.

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[redacted] requested that the Bureau endeavor to secure the information desired as set out in the memorandum at the earliest practicable date. b7C

[redacted] felt that the entire matter was a fraud and had some hesitancy in making the inquiries which he has asked us to make, because by approaching some of the persons named word would get back to David M. Roll, who possibly would go abroad. At this point I mentioned to him that the Director suggested the b7C

I think we should make certain Rolls & [redacted] are where we can put our hand on them for if it is a fraud which it looks like they will certainly depart. 5/20/33 J. E. N.

Memo. Director.  
5/10/33.

possibility of approaching Henry Ford direct, and I pointed out that such a step at this time might preclude the possibility of Roll being advised of the investigation, and at the same time would get to the bottom of the matter immediately. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has intended right along to ultimately interview Henry Ford, but feels that he should have all possible information concerning the authenticity or spuriousness of the documents in his hands before talking with Ford. b7C

He discussed the possibility of prosecution, and I suggested that inasmuch the mails had been used rather freely, and in view of the fact that he possesses correspondence which bears the alleged forged signature of Henry Ford, it should not be difficult to prosecute under the Mail Fraud Statute. He thought perhaps he might proceed against these parties for forgery, but I rather doubt the fact that much success could be had in this regard, because there have been no checks forged, only the names having been forged to letters and telegrams.

I am having photostatic copies made of the material which I obtained from [REDACTED] and I will return the same to him tomorrow. b7C

Respectfully,



V. W. Hughes.

Washington, D.C.,  
May 10, 1933.

Received [redacted] the following photostats:

b7c

(1) Air mail letter dated Jan. 4, 1931, addressed to Senator Dwight W. Morrow, Washington, signed by Henry Ford. Consists of three pages.

(2) Letter dated Jan. 12, 1931, addressed to David M. Roll, signed by Henry Ford. Consists of two pages.

(3) Air mail letter dated Jan. 14, 1931, addressed to David M. Roll, Washington, and signed by Henry Ford. Consists of one page.

(4) Contract between Henry Ford and David M. Roll, dated Dec. 3, 1930. Consists of four pages.

(5) Contract between Henry Ford and David M. Roll, dated July 11, 1932. Consists of three pages.

V. W. Hughes,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice.

Memo Directly  
5-16-33  
VW.H.

This material returned to  
[redacted] 5/12/33  
b7c who was unable to  
locate the original  
signed receipt  
5/12/33  
[signature]

62-27884-29





TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

The Honorable,

The Attorney General.

Henry Ford

Sir:

In response to your letter dated May 11, 1933, symbols, JEH, permission is given Special Agent [redacted] of the Bureau of Investigation to inspect the income tax returns of Henry Ford, Detroit, Michigan, for the years 1930, 1931 and 1932. b7C

This letter should be presented in Room 7300, Internal Revenue Building, 12th and C Streets, Northwest.

Respectfully,

*James M. Douglas*

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-27874-35

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 29 1933 A.M.

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

NATHAN

Dis. One

FILE

511 Hurley-Wright Building,  
Washington, D. C.

May 27, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES.

RE: D. M. ROLL ET AL.

Special Investigation for [REDACTED] b7C

Agent at the request of Mr. V. W. Hughes of the Bureau, contacted Mr. A. B. Weiss, Chief of the Records Division of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, Room 7300, Internal Revenue Building, 12th and C Streets, N. W., Washington, D. C., for the purpose of inspecting the Income Tax Returns of:

Henry Ford, Dearborn, Michigan [REDACTED] b7C

D. M. Roll, Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Weiss, after contacting the Collector of Internal Revenue at Detroit, Michigan, and Baltimore, Maryland, advised Agent that [REDACTED] b7C

Agent, by authorization of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Honorable James H. Douglass, was given access to the income tax return of Henry Ford, Dearborn, Michigan, for the years 1930 and 1931, and of the Ford Motor Company for 1930, in the office of Mr. [REDACTED] Technical Advisor to the Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Room 4302, Internal Revenue Building, Washington, D. C. An inspection of these returns by Agent disclosed [REDACTED] b7C

b3 per IRS

(b)(3) in conjunction with Title 26, U.S.C. Sections 6103 & 7213.

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The Collectors of Internal Revenue at Baltimore and Detroit advised Mr. Weiss that the indexing of the returns for 1932 had not been completed in their office and that they were unable to state whether a return had been filed for 1932 by either [REDACTED] or Henry Ford. b7C

Mr. Weiss advised Agent that it appeared that Mr. Ford had [REDACTED]

b3 per IRS

This investigative work was performed by Agent on May 12, 13, 15, 16, and 18, 1933.

[REDACTED] b7C  
Special Agent (A)

[REDACTED] b7C  
CC Bureau (3) ←

(b)(3) in conjunction with Title 26, U.S.C. Sections 6103 + 7213

X  
JLR/ent

May 26, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. SUGNES

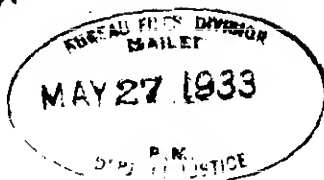
With reference to the investigation which you have been making concerning the activities of David M. Roll, [REDACTED] I wish you would keep in close touch with [REDACTED] concerning this matter, particularly with reference to ascertaining from [REDACTED] when the Bureau may, without interference with his general inquiries, initiate the investigation which it seems should be initiated, concerning the activities of these three individuals in connection with certain allegedly spurious telegrams and letters which have been made the basis for certain law suits. In other words, at the beginning of this matter, there was a possibility that there had actually been some sort of an agreement between Mr. Henry Ford, David M. Roll, [REDACTED] concerning the obtaining of Muscle Shoals from the government. The inquiry to date seems to indicate that the various telegrams and letters which have been in the possession of [REDACTED] are spurious, and from other information received there is a possibility there has been an effort made to obtain money through false pretenses, and possibly misuse of the mails. I do not think this matter should be allowed to be held pending for any extended period of time, as I think action should be swift and definite, but of course we cannot take any action in this matter until [REDACTED] indicates what his wishes are. b7C

I would, therefore, like to have you keep in touch with [REDACTED] so that we may know when we can proceed vigorously along the lines indicated. b7C

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED



62-27884-36	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 29 1933 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

EAT: [redacted]  
b7c

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.**

January 16, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Re: DAVID M. ROLL: Obtaining  
Money Under False Pretenses;  
Forgery; Uttering in the  
District of Columbia

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

There is transmitted herewith an interesting case writeup  
of the above entitled matter prepared by the Investigative Division.

Very truly yours,

EDWARD A. TAMM

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-27884-120

*Original to Tolson  
Main Records Section  
1-21-39 JEM*

January 1, 1939

I. C. #62-27884

DAVID M. ROLL

**OBTAINING MONEY UNDER FALSE PRETEXTS  
FORGERY  
UTTERING IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

A comprehensive investigation of the above entitled matter was instituted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in November of 1933, in connection with the reported activities of David M. Roll. This investigation developed that Roll, who for several months prior thereto resided at the exclusive Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D. C., successfully practiced a carefully planned confidence game for a period of more than a year, using as instruments thereof two alleged contracts with Henry Ford, prominent Detroit automobile manufacturer. Under the terms of these so-called agreements, Roll was purportedly given authority by Henry Ford to attempt to lease the huge Muscle Shoals Development properties owned by the United States Government at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, for a stipulated price of eighty-eight million dollars.

The first of these bogus contracts was dated December 3, 1930, and provided that Roll should retain as his fee for his services the difference between the eighty-eight million dollars and the amount he would actually pay the United States Government for the lease of the Muscle Shoals property. It further alleged that in the event David M. Roll failed to obtain this lease he was to, nevertheless, receive a fee from Mr. Ford aggregating a quarter of a million dollars.

The second agreement was dated July 11, 1932, and purported to continue the first contract for an additional two years. It represented that Roll was to receive all of the daily interest balances on the eighty-eight million dollars, which was then alleged to have been deposited to the credit of David M. Roll, in addition to a sum not to exceed two million dollars for his services as trustee in the event the contract was terminated on or before two years from the date thereof.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

62-27884-120

The Bureau's investigation of this case disclosed that Roll forged the signature of Henry Ford to both of these contracts. It also revealed that Roll forged certain spurious correspondence which tended to lend substantial color to the representations he made. This pretended correspondence consisted of telegrams and letters which purported to show the negotiations leading up to the contracts as well as Roll's alleged activities and efforts to secure the lease to the Muscle Shoals properties from the United States Government.

One of the letters to which Roll forged the signature of Henry Ford represented that Roll was authorized to draw against the sum of eighty-eight million dollars any amount he, Roll, deemed necessary to enable him to carry on negotiations for the acquisition of Muscle Shoals. Another of Roll's forged communications purported that former United States Senator Dwight W. Morrow of New Jersey would act as liaison man between Henry Ford and Roll in the execution of the Muscle Shoals deal.

Armed with these forgeries, Roll approached a number of persons and endeavored to secure large sums of money from them as loans or towards the purchase of a part interest in the alleged contracts. He spent money quite freely, and maintained a chauffeur-driven Pierce Arrow limousine. Roll claimed to be a lobbyist representing the Ford and also the duPont interests, and likewise boasted of having many other influential connections throughout high official and business circles.

On the strength of the bogus contracts and other misrepresentations, Roll obtained money from one victim after another, under the guise of needing additional funds to defray his personal expenses in connection with necessary negotiations he alleged to be making in securing the Muscle Shoals lease. In the course of his activities he secured from [redacted] of Oklahoma the total sum of \$56,920.00; from [redacted] of Morgantown, West Virginia, the sum of \$9,420.00; from [redacted] of Washington, D. C., the sum of \$4,000.00; from [redacted] of Baltimore, Maryland, the sum of \$1,200.00; from [redacted] of Washington, D. C., the sum of \$2,500.00; and from [redacted] of Morgantown, West Virginia, the sum of \$75.00. b7c

- 3 -

In defrauding [redacted] of Oklahoma, Roll suggested that [redacted] accompany him to Detroit to call upon Henry Ford, who, purportedly, was to advance Roll \$400,000.00 for a retainer fee and expenses. Upon their arrival in Detroit, however, Roll then referred to the secrecy with which Henry Ford allegedly insisted in handling the Muscle Shoals matter and, in view of same, Roll suggested that only he, himself, confer with Mr. Ford. Roll never did meet Henry Ford, but returned later and informed [redacted] that he had talked with Mr. Ford, who advised him that his attorneys considered it unwise to pay out any money at that time because of possible publicity that might leak out in connection with the transaction. b7C

Some time later, Roll was again successful in obtaining money from [redacted] by representing that Henry Ford insisted certain judgments against Roll in Colorado be paid so that Roll might be free from all debts while negotiating for the Muscle Shoals properties. Roll used as another lure in obtaining money from [redacted] a promise that [redacted] would be appointed as legal adviser, with a retainer fee of \$100,000.00 and with an additional contingent fee running up to a possible million dollars. On another occasion, Roll showed [redacted] a letter allegedly directed to Roll by former United States Senator Dwight W. Morrow of New Jersey, indicating that Mr. Morrow, upon Roll's request, made a personal investigation of certain mining properties purportedly owned by Roll in the State of Sonora, Mexico, and found the same to be worth a price in the seven figure column. b7C

When pressed for payment of various sums advanced him by [redacted] Roll eventually assigned to [redacted] a one half interest in the bogus contract which indicated that Henry Ford would pay Roll the daily interest balances on the aforementioned eighty-eight million dollars. Roll alleged that he had certificates of deposit in the amount of eighty-eight million dollars deposited in his name in J. P. Morgan's bank in New York City and claimed he was in constant telephonic communication with Henry Ford. b7C

C



- 4 -

On obtaining money from [redacted] of Washington, D. C., Roll made representations somewhat similar to the above. He purported to employ [redacted] as legal adviser and assigned to [redacted] twenty-five per cent interest in the profits in the alleged deal he was making for Henry Ford in acquiring the Muscle Shoals properties. b7C

Roll received a loan of \$1,500.00 from [redacted] of Washington, D. C., on one occasion and also obtained a loan of \$1,000.00 from [redacted] on another occasion, both of which were secured upon Roll's assurance that he would be paid in the very near future a substantial sum of money from Henry Ford as an advance payment on the Muscle Shoals deal. b7C

Roll obtained further advances, totaling \$1,200.00, from [redacted] of Baltimore, Maryland, under similar misrepresentations, and assigned to [redacted] a one-third interest in the profits which allegedly would be received from Henry Ford on the purported Muscle Shoals deal. b7C

As a result of the Bureau's investigation of this matter, Roll was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury in the District of Columbia on December 29, 1933, in seven counts, charging him with obtaining money under false pretenses from the individuals referred to, as well as forgery and the felonious uttering and publishing of the contracts in question. Roll was taken into custody in November of 1933, and held in jail under a \$25,000.00 bond. This amount was ultimately reduced to \$7,500.00 and he was released on June 12, 1934. On July 4, 1934, however, David M. Roll died at Atlantic City, New Jersey, after an emergency operation for gallstones, before being brought to trial under the above mentioned indictment.

The criminal identification files of the FBI indicate that David M. Roll served time in the Colorado State Penitentiary for practicing a confidence game, having been sentenced to a term of from five to seven years on conviction at Denver, Colorado, in 1925. According to the court records pertaining to this conviction, it appears that Roll was convicted for a confidence game perpetrated upon certain members and co-workers in the same church to which he belonged.

C

MORRIS SHEPPARD, TEX., CHAIR  
 DUNCAN U. FLETCHER, FLA.  
 HARRY L. BLACK, ALA.  
 J. HAMILTON LEWIS, ILL.  
 MARCUS A. COOLIDGE, MASS.  
 M. M. LOGAN, KY.  
 ROBERT W. REYNOLDS, N. C.  
 NATHAN L. BACHMAN, TENN.  
 F. RYAN DUFFY, WIS.  
 ROBERT D. THOMAS, UTAH  
 SHERMAN MINTON, IND.  
 LEWIS B. SCHWELLENBACH, WASH.

VICTOR RUSSELL, CLERK  
 C. H. TOLBERT, ASST. CLERK

# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS

Mr. Nathan.....  
 Mr. Tolson.....  
 Mr. Backus.....  
 Mr. Baughman.....  
 Chief Clerk.....  
 Mr. Clegg.....  
 Mr. Coffey.....  
 Mr. Edwards.....  
 Mr. Egan.....  
 Mr. Harbo.....  
 Mr. Keith.....  
 Mr. Lester.....  
 Mr. Quinn.....  
 Mr. Schilder.....  
 Mr. Smith.....  
 Mr. Tamm.....  
 Mr. Tracy.....  
 Miss Gandy.....

Washington, D. C.

April 3, 1935

Dear Mr. Hoover:

At the request of Mr. Sam T. Foster, Box 1, C. Vistoria, Tamps, Mexico, I send you herewith a letter and enclosure which I have received from him, which will explain themselves.

Yours very sincerely,

*Wm. S. Hearnes*

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Director

Division of Investigation

Washington, D. C.

RECORDED & INDEXED

APR 16 1935

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62-28282-3  
 DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
 APR 5 1935 A.M.  
 Tamm ONE FILE

H

C.Victoria, Tamps., Mexico.  
March 27th, 1935.

Senator Morris Sheppard, U.S.Senator.

Washington, D.C.

My Dear Sir:

Inclose carbon copy of a letter. I think it is important.

Would you mind letting Mr. Edgar Hoover read it. He is quite intelegent and maybe he can work something out.

Thanks very much.

Best regards, I am yours very truly,



Sam T.Foster.  
Box No.1,  
C.Victoria,  
Tamps.,  
Mexico.

62-28292-3

C. Victoria, Tamps., Mexico.  
March 27, 1935.

Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce,  
New York, N.Y. U.S.A. --- ---

Dear Sir:-

I am very anxious for you to know one of the things that has been a major cause in the falling off of the U.S. export trade.

Before the war I for 4 years sold American made machinery in latin America in competition with the Germans.

I became acquainted with the methods of the Germans. The Germans by word of mouth and also in print put out their superiority as a race of scientific people and they have gone so strong that the Latin really believes that all American inventions, such as the sub-marine, the flying machine, telephones, the radio, the moving pictures, the sewing machine, the steam engine, and all the rest were all invented by the Germans in Germany and sold to the U.S., and the U.S. people are not scientific, but purely commercial.

→ The latest now is that Henry Ford imported two German engineers to design the new engine the V-8 that he is now making. This last one is even published in the spanish language and a Mexican Engineer told me that it is too bad that Mr. Ford had to get German engineers to design a good engine.

Now please listen. This is serious.

All this pack of lies are believed by the Latins and it hurts American trade.

You are in a position to acquaint the American manufacturer with these facts and get something started, to put out American propaganda to off set what the Germans have been doing for many many years to hurt us.

Another thing, the sinking of that big Ward Line Steamer Moora Castle, also the wrecking of the big derigable was done by the Germans to prove to the Latins that the Americans do not make sea-worthy craft and that we can not make a derigable as good as the Germans make. *They have thrown that up to me.*

Now this is not a dream of mine I am giving you facts. It worries me sick.

I am a mining engineer making money surveying mines, I am entitled to a Spanish American War pension, but I don't want it. I make my living by working and not off of a run down Government. A start has to be made. We got to put on the breaks.

62-28287-3

Otherwise we as a nation are going to Hell in a basket and that very fast. The speed downward is increasing every day. Just what the Germans have been working for for their last 60 years.

Germany is promoting athelectis and improving their race while we are raising a generation of sissy boys, some with painted cheeks, and polished nails. We have quit raising a race of men. When this younger generation come into maturity and have to take charge of the Government also of the American Commerce, then the Grand Old U.S.A. will completely fall, fizzle out, and be over-run by foreigners. There is too much liberty given to foreigners in the U.S. when they can come in, and walk right into the confidence of the U.S. Government, form the famous brain-trust, and get our Government to fall for all that rot that we as a Government have and are still falling for.

The Germans started, a long time ago propoganda among the American women, until it has for years been shown in all fashion plates and written up in all American magazines, that to become beautiful, a woman must have narrow hips. If you even saw a race of narrow-hip people as are some of the tribes in China you would know at once what it means. It mean a race of degenerates, weaklings. Now this is important and I am now writing for the lime light. I was good in higher mathematics at college, I have an analytical mind, I can see into things, and I want you or some one to see this as I see it, and if some few get together on it maybe it is not too late to get started in the right direction and save our race and country.

I am Yours very truly,

Sam T. Foster,  
P.O. Box No. 1,  
C. Victoria,  
Tamps.  
Mexico.

*Sam T. Foster*

**RECEIVED**  
**62-25252-5**

**April 13, 1935**

**RECORDED**

**Honorable Morris Sheppard,  
United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.**

**My dear Senator:**

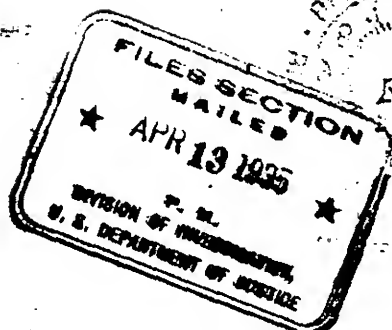
I have received your communication of April 3, 1935, transmitting a copy of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Sam T. Foster, Box 1, C. Victoria, Tamps, Mexico, and a copy of the enclosure transmitted with this letter, namely, a copy of a communication addressed to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of New York, on March 27, 1935 by Mr. Foster.

The Bureau files indicate that Mr. Foster has communicated with the Bureau on a previous occasion and I am incorporating in the Bureau files the letter which you transmitted to me. Since it does not appear from the contents of Mr. Foster's letter that the matter of which he complains constitutes a violation of any Federal Statute within the Bureau's jurisdiction, there is no action which can be taken at the present time.

With expressions of my highest esteem and best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

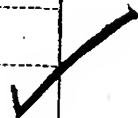
**John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.**



From  
**ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MALLOY**  
 To  
**OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK**

**MEMORANDUM**

*The Attorney General*  
*The Solicitor General*  
*Assistant to Attorney General Stanley*  
*Assistant Attorney General Wideman*  
*Assistant Attorney General Stephens*  
*Assistant Attorney General Sweeney*  
*Assistant Attorney General*  
*Director Division of Investigation*  
*Mr. Bates, Director Bureau of Prisons*  
*General Agent and Chief Clerk*  
*Assistant Chief Clerk*  
*Division of Supplies*  
*Mail and Files*  
*Mr. Finch, Pardon Attorney*  
*Mr. Parrish*  
*Mr. Key*  
*Mr. Ridgely*  
*Mr. Wixson*  
*Mr. Fisher*  
*Mr. Ramsey*  
*Mr. Morrisson*  
*Mr. Kiefer*  
*Mr. Norris*  
*Mr. Monarch*  
*Mr. Conner*  
*Mr. McEvers*  
*Miss Brookley*  
*Miss Dugan*



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**RECORDED  
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 INDEXED**

**62-29429-1**  
 DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
 SEP 1 1933 P.M.  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 Unit One FILE

**SEP 2 - 1933**

INTERNAL DIVISION

Germany is supplying Japan with all kinds of military supplies and all kinds of chemicals for newly developed poison-gases.

At the same time Germany is working in the investigation of the Pacific coast.

RECEIVED

Recently German officers have photographed the "Presidio district" of San Francisco and never were more German spies in USA than at present. now engaged in work for Japan.

Germany has recently closed a secret military treaty with Japan and this treaty is directed against USA and Russia.

In any war against Japan the USA will be perfectly helpless against the new organization of German spies in USA, which are already now supplying directly and indirectly Japan with all important military news, as until now it was very difficult for Japan to get such informations by their own staff.

Many of these Pro-Japanese Pro-German spies are members of the different pro German societies f. i. Friends of new Germany etc etc

These fellows are which are more dangerous to USA than the worst Bolsheviks. they do not only cause internal troubles, but a damage to USA in the future wars with Japan.

RECORD

71-0-  
more dangerous  
than Bolsheviks  
they do not  
only cause  
internal troubles  
but a damage  
to USA in the  
future wars  
with Japan  
MAIL AND FILES DIVISION  
F MALLOY-FISHER

The Junkers Werke in Dessau are now also working on a large order from Japan for a new type of Stratosphärenflieger. These type can carry bombs and is flying in heights of 24-30.000 feet and German-Americans connected with above mentioned pro German societies are financing this work.

Also Mr Henry Ford has supplied to Hitler huge amounts, which are now used to damage the USA.

Moreover all secret activities of these German spies and of the pro German societies are again managed and financed by the German embassy in Washington exactly as it was the case before the year 1917.

In the Sunday Referee London of Aug 13th you will find an article referring to this matter.



DEPARTMENT

OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON DC

U. S. A.